

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 were presented in the application as filed. Claims 1, 6, 9, 11, 12-15, 17, and 18 are currently amended. Claims 2, 7, and 16 are cancelled. Entry of these amendments, reconsideration of the application, and allowance of all claims pending herein are respectfully requested in view of the remarks below.

Claims 9 and 18 have been amended to correct the informalities noted by the Examiner. No new matter has been added.

Telephone Interview:

Applicants' representative gratefully appreciates the time afforded by Examiner Teskin during a telephone interview on September 20, 2007. Applicants' representative wishes to thank Examiner Teskin for his helpful suggestions in connection with amending independent claims 1 and 11 to focus on the subject matter of dependent claims 9 and 18 in an effort to better distinguish Applicants' invention. The amendments made above and specifically to independent claims 1 and 11 are believed to represent the spirit of dependent claims 9 and 18 if they were amended to independent form. The substance of the remarks presented during the interview is incorporated below.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Office Action states that claims 12-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicants have amended the foregoing claims to reflect proper antecedent basis. Specifically, the variable "R¹", which is a typographical error, has been amended to "R¹¹". No new matter has been added. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

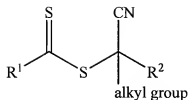
CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Office Action states that claims 1, 2, 5, and 10; claims 1-3, 10, and 11; claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 10, and 11; and claims 11, 16, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by US 6,153,705 (Corpart *et al.*), Chiefari *et al.*, Mayadunne *et al.*, and US 3,646,094 (Brooks *et al.*) respectively. The Office Action further states that claims 4, 7-9, and 18 would be allowable if amended and/or rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of the base claims, *i.e.*, independent claims 1 or 11.

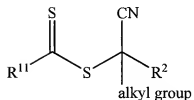
Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 11 so as to reflect the limitations of dependent claims 4 and 7-9, and 18 respectively, while keeping the broadest interpretation of claims 1 and 11 allowable. Applicants believe the foregoing amendments are in the spirit of what the Examiner has suggested in the present Office Action and the telephone conversation of September 20, 2007.

As to claim 1 and Corpart *et al.*, Applicant's have amended claim 1 to limit the scope of the variable R¹ and to limit the variable R² to only aryl. Nowhere in Corpart *et al.* is disclosed the transfer agent of Applicants' amended claim 1 wherein R¹ is selected from aryl, substituted aryl, alkoxy, and tertiary amino; and R² is aryl. Applicants respectfully assert that Corpart *et al.* is not an anticipating reference. Corpart *et al.* does not disclose each and every element as set forth in Applicants' amended claim 1, specifically the chain transfer agent of formula I as recited. Reconsideration of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is requested. Claims 2, 5, and 10, which depend from claim 1 and add further limitations to an allowable claim, are believed allowable for the same reasons.

As to claims 1 and 11, and Chiefari *et al.*, Applicants respectfully assert that the foregoing reference does not anticipate amended claims 1 and 11. The compounds disclosed by Chiefari *et al.* closest to the chain transfer agent of Applicants' amended claims 1 and 11 have the core structure represented by formulas III and IV:

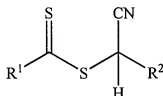


III

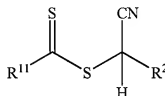


IV

The chain transfer agent of Applicants' amended claims 1 and 11 have the core structure represented by formulas I and II:



I



II

The compounds of Chiefari *et al.* have an alkyl group attached to the carbon adjacent to R² where as the transfer agents of Applicants' amended claims 1 and 11 have a hydrogen attached to the carbon adjacent to R². The compounds having the core structures III and IV as disclosed in Chiefari *et al.* are thus not anticipating.

Chiefari *et al.* does not disclose each and every element as set forth in Applicants' amended claims 1 and 11, specifically the chain transfer agent of formula I and formula II, as recited respectively. Reconsideration of claims 1 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is requested. Claims 2, 3, and 10, which depend from claim 1 and add further limitations to an allowable claim, are believed allowable for the same reasons.

As to claims 1 and 11, and Mayadunne *et al.*, Applicants respectfully assert that the foregoing reference does not anticipate amended claims 1 and 11 for the same reasons as argued above against Chiefari *et al.* The compounds (3 and 5b) disclosed by Mayadunne *et al.* closest to the chain transfer agent of Applicants' amended claims 1 and 11 have different core structures from the transfer agents as recited in Applicants' amended claims 1 and 11. See arguments presented against Chiefari *et al.*

Mayadunne *et al.* does not disclose each and every element as set forth in Applicants' amended claims 1 and 11, specifically the chain transfer agent of formulas I and II, as recited respectively. Reconsideration of claims 1 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is requested. Claims 2, 5, 6, and 10, which depend from claim 1 and add further limitations to an allowable claim, are believed allowable for the same reasons.

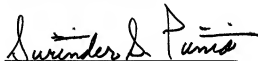
As to claim 11 and Brooks *et al.*, Applicants respectfully assert that the foregoing reference does not anticipate amended claim 11. Brooks *et al.* discloses compounds having a variable Z that may correspond to R² of the chain transfer agent as set forth in Applicants' amended claim 11 but does not disclose a single compound that has a variable that corresponds to R¹¹ of the chain transfer agent as set forth in Applicants' amended claim 11. The variable R¹¹ of the compound represented by formula II of Applicants' claim 11 corresponds to the variable A listed in column 3 of Table I in Brooks *et al.* The variable A is a tertiary amine (entries 1-3, 12, 17, 18, and 20), a heterocycle and not a heteroaryl (entries 4-6, 9-11, 13-16, 19, and 21), secondary amine (entry 8), alkoxy (entries 22-34 and 36-40), or a thioether (entry 35). None of the entries include an aryl or substituted aryl group.

Thus, Brooks *et al.* does not disclose each and every element as set forth in Applicants' amended claim 11, specifically the chain transfer agent of formulas II wherein R¹¹ is an aryl or substituted aryl. Reconsideration of claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is requested. Claims 16 and 17, which depend from claim 11 and add further limitations to an allowable claim, are believed allowable for the same reasons.

There being no other outstanding issues, it is believed that the application is in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

If a telephone conference would be of assistance in advancing the prosecution of the subject application, Applicants' undersigned agent invites the Examiner to telephone him at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Surinder S. Punia", written over a horizontal line.

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